

At first Tori Amos's debut *Little Earthquakes* (Atlantic) sounds like a Cabaret singer, until you listen to the words and realize something much deeper and intense is going on. Stream of consciousness melodies and rhymeless lyrics. Anguished cries from solitary rooms and songs of twisted romance and emotional longing. At times, she over does it adding extra drama where none is called for, but her excellent piano playing coupled with such songs as "Crucify" "Leather," and "Tear In Your Hand" reveal a unique new performer.

Tori Amos: Fri., Apr. 24 at 8 p.m. at TLA, 334 South St., \$12.50, 922-1011.

--Peter Brown